Welcome Home

Darrell Davis is a disabled veteran who has just relocated to beautiful Sierra County in search of a better quality of life. Once he became familiar with the area, he felt that this would be a great place to start his new life as a civilian, unwind, and grow as a person. After getting settled, he realized his next step was finding work and purpose.

The Loyalton Family Resource Center referred Darrell to Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc.’s (AFWD) Business and Career Network (BCN) office in Sierraville. On his first visit to the BCN, he met the Career Center Advisor (CCA). Darrell didn’t have any idea as to what sector he would like to work in. He did know, however, that he didn’t want to be a truck driver any longer. During the course of discussion, it was suggested that he take a few profile tests to determine his aptitudes. Exploring the Labor Market Information (LMI) would allow him to see what sectors were viable in his area. The results showed that Darrell preferred practical hands on work with problems and answers. Being a veteran, it was no surprise that it revealed he leaned towards set procedures and routines. For his future, he also saw a desire to go back to school.
Working close enough to home to walk was his preferred option, as it would allow him to save a bit, get on his feet faster, and have a positive effect on the environment. In reviewing the LMI and his profile results, the CCA suggested that he apply for the Eastern Plumas Health Care Loyalton (EPHC) campus as an Environmental Services Technician. This type of position would allow him to use his hands-on and problem solving skills.

The EPHC Loyalton campus is close enough to Darrell that he can walk to and from home and save money to boot. He was also excited to learn that it would provide dental and vision coverage that was not provided under the VA. If he landed this job, his plan was to schedule some college classes that would not conflict with his work schedule.

Darrell worked closely with the CCA on how to create a resume and go online to fill out the application to EPHC for the Environmental Services Technician position. Shortly after his applying he receive a phone call from the HR department inviting him to an interview. He accepted, nailed the interview with flying colors, and he was offered the position at the Loyalton campus of Eastern Plumas Health Care. AFWD then assisted him by purchasing the work cloths needed that were not provided by the employer.

Welcome Home, Darrell, and here is to the beginning of your new path and discoveries.
Invitational Tour of Sierra Pacific Industries, Inc.

Once a year one of the largest employers in Plumas County, Sierra Pacific Industries, Inc. (SPI), invites select local businesses to attend a tour of the Quincy mill property. This year, the tour began with a discussion of this family owned business, which now is one of the largest land owners in all of California. Several Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) staff members from Lassen, Sierra, and Plumas County attended this insightful tour. The property spans many acres, with over 325 people currently employed. SPI has openings for just about every department at the mill. SPI prides itself on being able to provide long term careers for those employees wishing to work hard and learn this unique business. Angie Wilcox, HR Coordinator at the Quincy location said, “SPI provides many special benefits such as educational scholarships available to children of our employees to help offset the costs of education. It’s just one of the many extra benefits SPI offers.”

While all employees begin as a laborer, there are many unique positions for which SPI offers in-house training. Millwrights are often trained in house because of the specialized requirements of their equipment. Employees can work their way up to various positions such as Grader, Sawfiler, and heavy equipment mechanic to more specialized positions within the co-generation plant. Quincy SPI operates a co-generation plant supplying all the energy needed to operate the mill. The tour gave us a better understanding of the many different positions unique to a mill operation. Kealey Froggatt, Human Resource Assistant, explained, “Any employee wanting to have a career can do so with SPI. Often employees are encouraged to apply for open positions within the firm.”

The sales and marketing for SPI is done from the Anderson location. Dave Little pointed out, “We encourage our employees who want to learn different parts of the industry to apply for any open position. We have had lumber Graders move to our Sales department in Anderson.”

Touring SPI allows AFWD to better serve the firm by gaining an enhanced understanding of the many positions available to this unique industry. SPI draws employees from all over the North State. We are able to provide the service of posting job openings in many of AFWD offices, thus giving SPI more exposure. Several new prospects have been referred to SPI from neighboring counties. Kealey Froggatt mentioned she was grateful to AFWD offering the extensive recruitment services and appreciates us going above and beyond to help get the word out to the job seekers.
AFWD America’s Job Center of California

Statistics
PY 2018 - 2019

**Sierra County**

*Total Visitors*

145

*Sierra County Business Services*

Businesses Served 2
Services Provided 6

**AFWD**

*Total Clients Enrolled*

988

**Unemployment Rate**
(As of: November 2018)

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